Application Number Request 09/690.74 For Filing Date October 17, 2000 ວິກິtໂnued Examination (RCE) First Named Inventor Rhoads Transmittal Group Art Unit 2173 Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after Examiner Name T. Hailu June 8, 1995. See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) Attorney Docket Number 60310 This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application. NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, File Rule, 66-Fee, Roy, 60992 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule 65 Fed. Reg. 14864 (mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established FCE proclee. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 MAY 1 7 2004 a., Previously submitted Technology Center 2100 Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.) ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on iii. Other 09690773 05/14/2004 SSITHIB1 00000106 501071 b. X Enclosed 770.00 DA 01 FC:1801 ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) iii. X Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. Dother _ 2. Miscellaneous a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required) b. Other Fees 3. The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1071 A copy of this sheet is enclosed. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 AND 1.17) iii. Other SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED 37,677 Joel R. Meyer Name (Print/Type) Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) May 10, 2004 Signature

envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: May 10, 2004 Joel R. Meyer Name (Print/Type)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an

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Data May 10, 2004